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14 May 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, G-3, D/A

THRU : Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, D/A

SUBJECT : SOLOO Study ERL, "Standard Methods of Compilation and Referencing of Area Intelligence Material," dated 15 April 1952

REFERENCE : Memorandum from G-3 to Director of Central Intelligence, dated 22 April 1952

Paragraph 2 of referenced memorandum requested this Agency's "comments and/or concurrence" as to subject study be forwarded. Although this Agency respects the objective stated in paragraph 1 of subject study, it is not possible to concur in the recommendations put forth in paragraphs 15-16, in view of the following comments, submitted for consideration:

a. Comments on Appendix 1 to subject study

(1) The proposed Standard Alphabetical Index is incomplete and misleading with respect to the NIS listings. A few examples of topics incompletely cited are:

(a) Agriculture, Ch. VI, Sec. 61B: ignores pertinent information bearing on agriculture in Sections 20, 23, 24, 41, 42, 44, 45, 52, 53, 64, and 65.

(b) History, Ch. IV, Sec. 40B: ignores short historical sketches provided in many other sections, such as Sections 43, 50, 51, and 52.

(2) Failure to cite all NIS Sections containing primary or related treatment of a topic will almost certainly lead the user to the conclusion that the citation provides the full NIS coverage on the referenced topic. Thus, it will tend to direct the user away from related treatment in other NIS Sections which might contain the desired information.

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(3) To illustrate the relationship between primary and secondary treatment of subject matter contained in the NIS, both of which must be consulted for full information, attention is invited to "The NIS Correlation Guide." This guide was prepared with a view to facilitating coordination of NIS material during the preparatory stages. It was not considered necessary to distribute this guide to the recipients of the NIS, as each published chapter contains a comprehensive Table of Contents which shows the topic covered in each NIS element down to and including subsections.

(4) The proposal also fails to grasp some broad subjects such as:

- (a) Attitudes toward authority
- (b) Structure of the religious hierarchy

(5) It is questioned that the preparation of an Alphabetical Index of the scope necessary to give proper guidance to NIS material is warranted or desirable in view of the complete guidance now available in the published NIS. It is suggested that the NIS Tables of Contents for Chapters I to IX, inclusive, be utilized in lieu of the proposed Standard Alphabetical Index.

b. Comments on paragraph 9 of subject study

(1) The assumption that "... no restrictions will be placed upon the mutual exchange of intelligence between the three countries concerned," is not in accord with existing practice. All IAC, and some non-IAC, Agencies produce NIS material. Under present policy, the producing agency exercises the right to restrict its NIS contributions to "U. S. Officials Only," and many of the published NIS have been so restricted.

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(3) Under present security control policies there will continue to be certain restrictions on the dissemination of NIS to the other two countries concerned.

LOFTUS E. BECKER
Deputy Director

ORR(D/B)/RHB;btc (7 May 52)

Rewritten:
DDI/RRD:mfc (14 May 52)

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